

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY / MIDDLE EAST UPDATE
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1. International Conversation on Cybersecurity Is Under Way (10-19-2011)

By Charlene Porter
Staff Writer

Washington — Cybersecurity is the fundamental base supporting all Internet activity, be it political, economic or social. October, recognized as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month since 2002 in the United States, is a time when governments, businesses and individuals must all recognize their role in maintaining cybersecurity, according to the U.S. State Department's coordinator for cyber issues, Christopher Painter.

Painter's remarks at an October 18 Washington press briefing echoed the proclamation for National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, issued by the White House October 3 on behalf of President Obama.

"This month, we recognize the role we all play in ensuring our information and communications infrastructure is interoperable, secure, reliable, and open to all," the proclamation says.

The proclamation also notes the Obama administration's release in May 2011 of an International Strategy for Cyberspace, addressing a range of cyberspace issues in one framework.

"It sets an agenda for partnering with other nations and better defines how we can ensure the secure, free flow of information and promote universal rights, privacy, and prosperity," says the proclamation.

These issues form a "new foreign policy imperative for us," Painter said at the briefing, one that the administration will pursue among the community of nations with "patient, persistent and creative diplomacy."

Information technologies have become such a critical tool in modern life, Painter said, that the international community must develop a mutual policy built upon some core values. In an ongoing multilateral dialogue, he said, nations will be discussing “shared norms” about cyberspace conduct that will sustain the interoperability, openness, security and reliability that users rely upon. In this discussion, the United States will promote longstanding values — such as respect for freedoms, respect for privacy, protection from crime — and some values unique to the Internet: network stability, reliable access and governance protecting the interests of all those who use the Internet responsibly.

Painter made his remarks at the State Department’s Foreign Press Center, where journalists from an array of international media outlets questioned him about cyberattacks rumored to be stewing in any number of capitals. Painter would not comment on any particular report or individual country, but acknowledged that the danger of plots that could create online mayhem are very real, and must be taken seriously. But when one reporter repeated a story circulating in Asia about the prospect of a “large-scale cyberwar,” Painter gave the story no credence.

“Our job is to avoid any kind of cyber conflict,” Painter responded. “I don’t think you’d have a cyber conflict outside a normal conflict; I don’t think that’s likely to happen.” The State Department’s cyber envoy repeated the need for nations to maintain an ongoing dialogue to reach mutual understandings for online conduct.

Though the October observance shines a spotlight on cybersecurity, Painter said it is not an end in itself. Rather, he said, cybersecurity should be viewed as an ongoing activity that creates the foundation to support all other online activities.

It’s a foundation “that enables the economic innovation on the Internet, that enables the social growth and the free expression and Internet freedom,” Painter said. “All that can be compromised if, for instance, criminals ran roughshod on the Internet.” Expression and innovation must coexist with regulation and security, Painter said, and they must be maintained in a proper balance so security does not override expression and innovation.

Painter said many aspects of this issue are discussed at the Web site staysafeonline.org, maintained by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. “Stop, Think and Connect” is the motto for promotion of National CyberSecurity Awareness Month, during which officials hope to increase knowledge and awareness about safe conduct on the Internet for individuals and businesses.

2. New Future for Libya (10-18-2011)

Clinton’s Remarks with Libyan Prime Minister Jibril in Tripoli

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton And Libyan Prime Minister Mahmoud Jibril, World Islamic Call Society, Tripoli, Libya

SECRETARY CLINTON: (In progress) on the soil of a free Libya. And on behalf of the American people I congratulate all Libyans. It is a great privilege to see a new future for Libya being born. And indeed, the work ahead is quite challenging, but the Libyan people have demonstrated the resolve and resilience necessary to achieve their goals.

Think about what has been achieved already. In crowded squares and mountain passes, Libyans stood up against a dictator’s aggression, and claimed the rights and dignity of a free people. Libyans were called rats by their own leaders and they were confronted by every possible tactic to

break your spirit. But no threats dimmed the courage of the Libyan people. The United States was proud to stand with you, and we will continue to stand with you as you continue this journey, respecting your sovereignty and honoring our friendship. This is Libya's moment. This is Libya's victory and the future belongs to you.

The United States knows something about revolution and liberty. That is how our nation was born more than 230 years ago. And we know that democracy takes time; it will not be easy or quick. But we are filled with admiration for what you have already accomplished and confident in your ability to move forward.

Now, we recognize that the fighting, the bloody fighting, continues. We know that Qadhafi and those close to him are still at large. But the NATO and international coalition that came together on your behalf will continue to protect Libyan civilians until the threat from Qadhafi and those who hang to the past is ended.

In our meetings today, the chairman, prime minister, and their colleagues shared with us their plans for establishing an inclusive democracy in Libya. We agreed that the Libyan people deserve a nation governed by the rule of law, not the whims of men. We believe you deserve a government that represents all Libyans from all parts of the country and all backgrounds, including women and young people. We believe you deserve a transparent and fair judicial system. We also are convinced that revenge and vigilantism have no place in the new Libya.

And we believe you deserve an economy that delivers jobs, dignity, and opportunities to all Libyans – not just to the powerful and connected. We also share your concern about caring for the wounded and the families of the fallen, about securing weapons that may have gone missing, about integrating all the various revolutionary forces into a new and unified Libyan military.

Libya is blessed with wealth and resources, most particularly the human resources of the Libyan people. And there is a pressing need, as I was told today, for international expertise and technical assistance. That is why we welcome the idea of a joint committee between Libya and the United States to look at the priorities that the Libyans themselves have.

I am pleased that we are working together to return billions of dollars of frozen assets and that we have reopened our Embassy. We will stay focused on security: I am pleased to announce that we are going to put even more money into helping Libya secure and destroy dangerous stockpiles of weapons. And the Administration, working with Congress, is going to provide \$40 million to support this effort. We will also work with Libya to destroy chemical weapons stocks.

We want to expand our economic cooperation with Libya, to create new educational and cultural exchanges and deepen our engagement with civil society. First, we will launch this new partnership to provide care to your wounded. It deeply moves us that so many people dropped whatever they were doing to fight for their freedom – engineers and teachers, doctors and business leaders, students, and so many others. We plan to evacuate some of the most seriously injured to specialized medical facilities in the United States. We want to help you care for your patients here in Libya, so we will work together to establish a modern medical management system and to provide needed supplies and equipment.

We are also very focused on the young people of Libya who have the most to gain from this new freedom. And today I am pleased to announce we are resuming the Fulbright program and doubling its size to permit even more Libyan students to study and train in my country. We will also open

new English language classes across Libya for young people and provide special training for Libyan veterans with disabilities because of their combat experience.

We are increasing grants and training to new civil society organizations and working with Libyan women to make sure they have the skills and opportunities to participate fully in the political and economic life of their countries.

And as with the transitions in Tunisia and Egypt, we will partner with Libya to create new economic opportunities and broader prosperity by boosting trade and investment, increasing tourism, building ties between Libyan and American businesses, and helping to integrate Libya more closely into regional and global markets.

This list is just a beginning, because we want to hear from the Libyan people, from the new government that will be established after Libya is fully liberated. But we think we share a lot of the same aspirations for our families and our countries and that we have a lot to learn from each other and give to each other.

Later, I will be meeting with students and civil and society leaders at Tripoli University, talking and listening to the young people of Libya, because it is to all of them that we dedicate our efforts on your behalf.

So again, prime minister, let me thank you for your warm welcome, and thanks to the people of Libya. And we give you our very best wishes and promise our best efforts as you undertake this journey to a new democracy. (Applause.)

PRIME MINISTER JIBRIL: Thank you, your Excellency.

MODERATOR: (In Arabic.)

QUESTION: (In Arabic.)

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, let me begin by saying that I personally and the Government of the United States supports human rights everywhere for everyone. And we advocate that not only to governments but also through civil society and work to try to support the opportunities and aspirations of every individual to live up to his or her God-given potential. So we have spoken out. We will continue to speak out.

But different circumstances demand different kinds of responses, and the opportunity now in Libya is to not only chart a new future for Libyans but to stand as a model for democracy and freedom that was won with the blood of your martyrs is an extraordinary chance that comes perhaps only once in human history. So we think that what Libya has before it, the opportunity to make good on the promise of the revolution, is of the utmost importance, and that is why we are standing ready to work closely with the new Government of Libya and with the people of Libya.

We have and will continue to speak out to our friends, who we believe should do more on behalf of women and women's rights – and I have said that many times – and with those with whom we have very serious differences, who are preventing the full aspirations and freedom of their people to flourish. But today, I am here to talk about Libya and Libya's future and the hope that not only the United States but the world has invested in the future that Libyans will make for themselves.

MODERATOR: (In Arabic.)

QUESTION: Madam Secretary, Mister Prime Minister, how concerned are you about the possibility of civil war here, or any lengthy ongoing conflict with pro-Qadhafi forces? And also, could you both comment on what you believe should happen to the convicted Lockerbie bomber? Should he go back to prison?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, I think, first of all, we are encouraged by the commitment of the Transitional National Council to taking the steps necessary to bring the country together. National unity is one of the highest priorities that Libya faces right now. And we discussed the process of forging a new democratic interim government that is transparent, inclusive, and consultative. And how that is done will, of course, depend upon the decisions that the Libyan people themselves make.

But from long experience, one factor we know must be confronted is unifying the various militias into a single military that represents the Libyan people and government. And the Transitional National Council is very focused on doing just that. They want to get all the militias under national command. They want to prevent reprisals and secure the stocks of weaponry that have come off the battlefield or have been discovered from the previous regime. And we think that the programs that the Transitional National Council have outlined to pay to the families of the fallen martyrs, to prepare programs and treatment and training for those who have served, are exactly what will be needed. Getting a national army and a police force under civilian command is essential. And the United Nations, the United States, and other partners stand ready to do that. But we are still at the point where liberation has not yet been claimed because of the ongoing conflicts that persist, and of course, the continuing freedom of action of Qadhafi and those around him. So the Transitional National Council has to put security first. There has to be a resolution of the conflict before many of these programs can actually be put into action. And I really believe that all members of all militias must see the benefit of joining the new government, of pledging allegiance, as we say in my country, to the new government.

You know, I come from a very diverse country. We fought a civil war, and it was horrible. It was the war in which more Americans died at each other's hands than any other, and we lived with the consequences for decades afterwards. In today's world, in the 21st century, that will just throw a people further behind history. So I know that the leadership understands that. They are focused on doing everything they can to end the fighting, to declare the liberation of the country, to form a new government, and to begin to pull the entire country together. So we will do everything we can to respond to that.

And we have made, of course, our strong views known about Megrahi, and I have said, many times, that we believe that he should never have been released. I raised this issue again with the leadership here. We – and we recognize the magnitude of all the issues that Libya is facing, but we also know the importance of the rule of law, and they have assured us they understand how strongly the United States feels about this and all the sensitivities around this case. We will continue to pursue justice on behalf of the victims of the Lockerbie bombing. This is an open case in the United States Department of Justice, and we will continue to discuss it with our Libyan counterparts.

QUESTION: Does the United States --

SECRETARY CLINTON: Will you talk in the microphone so the press can hear you, sir? Thank you.

QUESTION: You hear me now?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Yeah.

QUESTION: (Inaudible) from Libya Al Hurra TV. Will the United States consider cooperating with the Libyan Islamists on delivering political process for Libya? Thank you.

SECRETARY CLINTON: The democracy that takes root in Libya must be reflective of the aspirations of the people of Libya, not the desires or dictates of any outside group. So with respect to Libyans themselves, we will support a process of democratizing that respects the rule of law; that respects the rights of minorities and women and young people; that creates independent institutions, like a free press and an independent judiciary. Groups and individuals who really believe in democracy should be welcome into that process. But groups that want to undermine democracy or subvert it are going to have to be dealt with by the Libyans themselves.

There are people – and I've been working in this area for many years, even as a private citizen and as a United States senator. There are many people who say they support elections, but only if they get elected. They want one election, one time, and then if they are elected no more elections. So these are all the kinds of challenges that Libyans will face in putting together their democracy. But people must renounce violence, they must give up arms, they must be committed to a democracy that respects the rights of all. And then, of course, you have an inclusive democracy that includes people, but they must be committed to the goals of a true democracy.

QUESTION: Madam Secretary, I'd like to take you a bit east of here. Today, Gilad Shalit has returned home after more than five years in captivity, and hundreds of Palestinian prisoners have been released as well. I was wondering whether you could give us your reaction to the deal struck between Israel and Hamas and how that fits in, if at all, with your wider efforts to resume peace talks, for example, in the Middle East. And also slightly connected to this, we are hearing reports that the American Israeli citizen, Ilan Grapel, who's been detained in Egypt on charges of spying, may be released. I was wondering whether you could confirm that.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well first, we are pleased that a long ordeal, being held five years as a hostage, has ended for Gilad Shalit and he's been released and finally reunited with his family. He was held for far too long in captivity. And we are also hopeful that Ilan Grapel will similarly be released. We see no basis for any legal action against him.

And of course, we are hopeful that there will be a return to negotiations by the Israelis and the Palestinians by the end of this month, as outlined by the Quartet statement.

So we continue to be very focused on working toward a two-state outcome that would give the Palestinian people the same rights that the Libyan people are now obtaining to chart their own destiny and make their own way in life with their own goals and aspirations being fulfilled, and that Israel would have secure borders and could contribute to the prosperity of the larger region. So we remain focused on that and we'll continue to work toward those outcomes.

QUESTION: (In Arabic.)

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, Prime Minister Jibril is smiling because I have raised it every time I have seen him and every time that I have seen Chairman Jalil and all of the Libyan officials with whom I have met over the last many months.

I would make three points. First, no country can become a democracy, no economy can develop as fully as it could, if half the population is not included. And the women of Libya have the same rights as their brothers and their husbands and their fathers and their sons to help build a new Libya. So we are very committed and very outspoken about what we hope will be the full inclusion of women in a democratic future.

Secondly, women also sacrificed in this revolution. Women were in the streets. Women were supporting the fighters. Women were sending their sons and their husbands off to an uncertain future, and many will never see them again. So women have sacrificed. They may not have been on the front lines holding a weapon, but they were holding together the society and supporting those who were fighting for Libya's independence. So they have earned the right to be part of Libya's future.

And finally, there is an opportunity here that I hope Libya will seize. I believe because you have won your freedom – no one handed it to you, you fought for it and you won it – that you will find it in your hearts to demonstrate to the entire world that Libya is not only free, but Libya is equal, Libya believes in the rule of law, Libya will educate all of their boys and girls to take their rightful places in the world. I would hope that I could come back to a free, democratic Libya in a few years, and it would be a shining example of what is possible when free people make their own choices.

So I cannot imagine how that could come to pass if women are not given the right to serve their country, to run their businesses, to be educated to the best of their abilities. So I will certainly look to ways that the United States can support the women in Libya to be able to take their rightful places in this new democratic future.

Thank you.

MODERATOR: (In Arabic.)

SECRETARY CLINTON: Thank you, my friend.

[Secretary Clinton: Travel to Malta, Libya, Oman, Afghanistan](#) October 17-20, 2011
[Clinton's Remarks with Libyan Prime Minister Jibril in Trip](#)
[Clinton with Youth and Civil Society in Tripoli, Libya](#)
[Remarks to Press by Secretary Clinton, Malta's Gonzi](#)

3. Under Secretary Tauscher on Trans-Atlantic Missile Defense (10-18-2011)

Remarks by Ellen Tauscher, Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security
Atlantic Council Missile Defense Conference, Washington, DC

Trans-Atlantic Missile Defense: Phase II and the Lead Up to the NATO Chicago Summit

Thank you, Fred, for that kind introduction and for inviting me to participate in this conference. I want to particularly thank you for your leadership and the important efforts of the Atlantic Council around the world. I appreciate the opportunity to be back at the Atlantic Council to share some insights on the progress that we have made on missile defense in Europe.

Let me also acknowledge my good friend General O'Reilly. I cannot say enough about his hard work and dedication to the Missile Defense Agency. We have been making frequent trips together to Europe. His support has been essential to our efforts to protect our homeland and our NATO Allies from the growing threat from ballistic missile proliferation.

When I was last here in October 2009, President Obama had just announced his decision to shift from the deployment of 10 Ground-Based Interceptors in Europe to a system using land- and sea-based SM-3 interceptors to provide protection of the United States homeland and our NATO European Allies.

During those remarks, I explained why the Obama Administration's approach provided more protection sooner against the existing threat, using proven systems, and at a lower cost than the previous proposal.

Moreover, the Obama Administration's approach has the added advantage of protecting our European Allies against the existing threat. That focus on the "now" distinguishes our approach from the previously proposed system, which was focused on a long-range missile threat that has been slower to develop than previously anticipated.

At the same time, there were many questions about the impact of that change.

Questions about the reaction of our Allies.

Questions about whether NATO would spend limited resources on a European missile defense system.

Questions about how Russia would react.

Some press reports even declared that the Obama Administration had decided to shelve missile defense in Europe.

Now, two years later, we have made tremendous progress. We already have begun implementing Phase 1 of what is known as the European Phased Adaptive Approach (or EPAA), and we have put in place the arrangements necessary to implement the three follow-on phases.

Let me run through some of the achievements of the last two years.

First, in November 2010, NATO made the landmark decision to develop a missile defense capability to provide full coverage and protection for all NATO European populations, territories, and forces against the increasing threats posed by ballistic missiles.

The Alliance also agreed to use NATO Common Funding to enhance the capabilities of the Active Layered Theater Ballistic Missile Defense system (or ALTBMD) to give it the ability to provide command and control for this expanded system. Finally, Allies at Lisbon welcomed the EPAA as the U.S. national contribution to NATO's missile defense capability.

In March of this year, the USS Monterey became the first U.S. ballistic missile defense asset deployed to Europe for the defense of NATO. This initial step in implementation of Phase 1 of the EPAA provides protection to Southern Europe against exiting threats.

The USS Monterey is the first ship of a continuous deployment to Europe as part of the EPAA. As part of that commitment, the USS Monterey will be replaced shortly by the USS The Sullivans.

Then in September, just a few days shy of the two-year anniversary of the EPAA announcement, we rolled out three missile defense agreements that put the final pieces in place for the EPAA.

I will discuss these developments in a phased order, rather than chronological order.

On September 14, we announced that Turkey agreed to host the AN/TPY-2 missile defense radar as part of Phase 1 of the EPAA. This is a vital contribution by Turkey to NATO missile defense.

Basing the AN/TPY-2 radar in Turkey will significantly increase the size of the area that can be defended by the deployed Aegis systems. We plan to have the radar in place by the end of this year.

On September 13, Secretary Clinton and Romanian Foreign Minister Baconschi (Ba-con-ski) signed a Ballistic Missile Defense Agreement for Phase 2. Once ratified by the Romanian Parliament, this agreement will allow the United States to build a land-based SM-3 interceptor site at Deveselu (Dev-e-sell-oo) Air Base in Romania.

This will be the first operational deployment of a land-based SM-3 site. Once operational in the 2015 timeframe, the site will provide additional missile defense protection for Southern Europe.

On September 15, our Ballistic Missile Defense Agreement with Poland entered into force for Phase 3. It is the first such agreement that reached entry into force and we greatly appreciate all of the effort and support we have received from Poland.

Following the September 2009 announcement of the EPAA, we were able to work quickly with our Polish allies to modify the Bush Administration's BMD Agreement to allow for the deployment of the land-based SM-3 site instead of the GBIs. As a result of the strong NATO support for the EPAA, we were able to sign that agreement in July 2010.

We are working with our Polish colleagues on next steps in order for the deployment to proceed in the 2018 timeframe. When Phase 3 is fully implemented, the system will provide coverage to all of our European NATO Allies.

Most recently, Spain agreed in October to serve as a home port for four Aegis ships to support future deployments to Europe. This contribution by Spain supports the commitment made by NATO to missile defense.

Home-porting these ships in Europe will allow the United States to respond more rapidly to a crisis in the region by reducing transit times. Another advantage is that the overall wear and tear on these vessels that comes with crossing the Atlantic will be reduced.

Throughout this process, NATO allies have responded with a tremendous amount of cooperation and support. Together, we have worked hard to make NATO's landmark Lisbon decision to protect all NATO European members' territories, populations, and forces with missile defense a reality.

It has been a great privilege for me to have worked so closely with all of our Allies over the last couple of years to reach this point, especially my colleagues in Poland, Romania, Spain, and Turkey.

We also are grateful for the other national contributions by our NATO Allies to this effort, including the recent announcement by the Netherlands that it will spend close to 250 million Euros to modify the radars on its frigates to detect and track ballistic missiles at long ranges.

Over the coming months, we will continue these efforts with our NATO Allies. As we said from the start, we want our missile defense deployments to be part of a NATO missile defense effort, where our system will be the U.S. contribution. NATO is working hard on developing the necessary command and control arrangements for this system.

It is NATO's goal and our desire that enough of this work be completed by the May 2012 Summit in Chicago to declare an initial NATO missile defense capability.

Finally, let me reiterate that the Obama Administration is fully committed to implementing all phases of the European Phased Adaptive Approach to counter the threat of ballistic missiles from outside Europe.

As President Obama stated in his December 2010 letter to the Senate,

"My Administration plans to deploy all four phases of the EPAA. While advances of technology or future changes in the threat could modify the details or timing of the later phases of the EPAA – one reason this approach is called "adaptive" – I will take every action available to me to support the deployment of all four phases."

In addition to full implementation of the EPAA, we are committed to the deployment of the Ground Based Interceptors in Alaska and California to provide the United States with a defense against a limited ICBM strike from countries such as North Korea or Iran.

At the same time, we must continue our efforts to develop missile defense cooperation with Russia. I was in Russia last week meeting with my Russian counterpart Deputy Foreign Minister Ryabkov.

This is an historic opportunity for the United States, NATO, and Russia. We are continuing work to establish a political framework that would open the way for practical cooperation on missile defense, including a center that would coordinate radar data and another center that would coordinate operations.

The missile defense system we are establishing in Europe is not directed against Russia. We have said that publicly and privately, at many levels. We are prepared to put it in writing.

As full partners in missile defense, we would partner to counter threats originating outside Europe, not each other. Our NATO European missile defense system is not and will not be directed at Russia, and Russia would continue to be able to confirm that the system is directed against launches originating outside Europe and not from Russia.

The EPAA does not possess the technical capability to undermine Russia's strategic nuclear forces nor do we seek to develop a system that could. The mission of our missile defenses in Europe is to counter launches from the Middle East, which would be few in number and at an early stage of technology.

To perform this mission, engineering choices have been made: the system is and will continue to be capable of countering small numbers of launches of modest sophistication from the south. It has no capability to counter Russian strategic forces, given their location, numbers, and advanced technology.

This is true of phases 3 and 4, as well as 1 and 2.

We welcome an opportunity to continue and expand the sharing of technical information on the EPAA with Russian experts on an interagency basis, to demonstrate what it can and cannot do.

We cannot provide legally binding commitments, nor can we agree to limitations on missile defenses, which must necessarily keep pace with the evolution of the threat. But through cooperation we can demonstrate the inherent characteristics of the system and its inability to undermine Russian deterrent forces or strategic stability.

Only through cooperation, by working side-by-side and using their own eyes and ears, will Russians gain assurance on our capabilities and intentions.

Absent cooperation on missile defense, there could be more mistrust and opportunities for miscalculation. Such a path would not serve the interest of the United States or Russia or of strategic stability, and distract us from the 21st century threats we both face.

One such threat concerns the proliferation of ballistic missiles. We are cooperating with Russia, our NATO allies, and countries around the world to stem ballistic missile proliferation. As we all know, the least enviable time to defend against ballistic missiles is after they have been launched.

Chief among our missile nonproliferation tools is the Missile Technology Control Regime, or MTCR. Working with the other 33 MTCR Partners, we have created the global standard for controlling the transfer of equipment, software, and technology that could contribute to missile developments.

In fact, because of the imposition of UN Security Council Resolutions on Iran and North Korea, all countries are now required, regardless of end-use, to prevent the transfer of items listed in the MTCR Annex to Iran and North Korea.

We also are working to support the efforts of the Hague Code of Conduct Against Ballistic Missile Proliferation, which includes over 130 subscribing states and consists of a set of general principles, commitments, and confidence building measures to bolster efforts to curb ballistic missile proliferation.

In addition, we are joining with our partners to interdict shipments of WMD and missile-related items, including through the Proliferation Security Initiative or PSI, which focuses on improving a country's ability to stop shipments of proliferation concern.

Beyond missile defense and preventing missile proliferation, the Obama Administration has achieved a number of significant accomplishments that put us on the path toward the President's vision of seeking a more secure and safer world without nuclear weapons.

The New START Treaty with Russia, which lowers limits on deployed strategic nuclear weapons possessed by both countries, has been in force for eight months now and implementation is going smoothly. We have completed the Nuclear Posture Review, which took specific and concrete steps to reduce the role of nuclear weapons in our national security strategy.

At the State Department we have conducted a Quadrennial Diplomacy and Defense Review, known as the QDDR, which examined how we can use our civilian power to better advance our national security issues. We also have strengthened efforts to secure nuclear materials and other weapons of

mass destruction, enhanced our international efforts to prevent the proliferation of WMD, and placed tougher sanctions on proliferators.

The list of these essential national security efforts is much, much longer than I could ever possibly sum up here.

Summing up all the benefits to our national security provided by the State Department is truly remarkable when you realize that it is all accomplished on one percent of the federal budget. That one percent includes every penny spent on foreign assistance, security assistance, and operation of our embassies and consulates abroad.

That's a tremendous bargain for the American taxpayer. Unfortunately, many of them think up to 25 percent of the federal budget is spent on foreign aid. That misunderstanding helps create a climate where some in Congress see the State Department budget as a place to find savings without any cost to our national security.

Nothing could be further from the truth. It is the diplomacy and development work conducted by the State Department that helps prevent wars, contain conflicts, counter extremism, secure borders, and reduce global weapons threats, including ballistic missiles.

As my remarks demonstrate, the work we do at the State Department with the Pentagon and the Missile Defense Agency advances our efforts in Europe and around the world to protect our Allies, our citizens, and our forces from the dangers posed by ballistic missile proliferation.

Let me once again thank Fred for inviting me to speak here today. I want to also congratulate him on his latest book, *Berlin 1961*.

It is a reminder of an era and tensions in Europe that we do not want to replicate, which is why the United States and NATO want to cooperate with Russia on missile defenses against common threats. We do not want to return to the divisive policies and military competition of the past. Cooperation is in all our interests.

Thanks to all of you for your time and for participating in this important conference.

4. U.S. Seeks Iran Sanctions Enforcement After Assassination Plot (10-15-2011)

By Stephen Kaufman
Staff Writer

Washington — The United States is urging the international community to consider the ramifications of the alleged plot involving members of the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps' Quds Force to assassinate a Saudi Arabian diplomat. U.S. officials are asking other nations to join the Obama administration in implementing financial sanctions to further isolate Iran's regime and pressure it to comply with international demands concerning its nuclear activities, support for terrorism and the repression of its people.

In testimony October 13 before the U.S. Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman said [the alleged plot that targeted Saudi Ambassador to the United States Adel al-Jubeir](#) and could have killed Americans in the

United States was “a flagrant violation of international law and a dangerous escalation of the Iranian government's longstanding use of political violence and sponsorship of terrorism.”

“This conspiracy also violates the Convention on Internationally Protected Persons, including diplomatic agents, which Iran has agreed to, as well as U.N. Security Council resolutions,” Sherman said. Iran “must be held accountable for its actions,” she added.

Although Ambassador al-Jubeir was the target, Sherman said it was “in fact, a plot against all diplomats. And we will be asking all countries to consider appropriate actions, including denying Quds Force officers any platform to operate within their countries.”

Since the case became public on October 12, “we have instructed every one of our ambassadors to demarche the highest levels of their host governments to inform them about the facts behind this plot,” by “meticulously and rationally laying out the facts,” she said. The European Union and many countries, including Nigeria, Estonia, Poland, Croatia, the United Kingdom and Canada, have issued their own condemnatory statements in response.

The United Nations, the European Union, the United States and other countries have sanctioned Iran for its human rights abuses, support for terrorism and for violating agreements about its nuclear program. Those sanctions also have hit the Revolutionary Guard Corps and companies it controls, and many top Iranian officials are under visa bans for the European Union as well as the United States.

Sherman said sanctions are “most effective and they are strongest when they are internationalized and people throughout the world and governments throughout the world are enforcing those sanctions.”

U.S. officials, including President Obama, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and assistant secretaries of state, have spoken with governments in “every capital,” to encourage other countries to “enforce the sanctions that are on the books, to look at their own bilateral sanctions, to look at the designations that U.S. Treasury Department has made and make them themselves,” she said.

“We have encouraged them to make sure that the Quds Force stops doing business in their countries, to look at high-level visits that might be coming from Iranians to their country, and to consider, let's say, postponing, if not cancelling outright, those visits,” she said.

Sherman said during a conversation with one of her counterparts, she had told the official, “Think about what your country needs to do and think about it in terms of what you would have done and what the international community would have done if this plot had been successful.”

The various sanctions in place offer “many tools” that countries can use to apply pressure to Iran’s government, she said. “All countries have to do is pick them up and make them real.”

Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence David Cohen told the Senate committee that U.S. officials have met with banks, regulators and government officials in nearly 50 countries. The Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act (CISADA) that President Obama signed in 2010 offers a clear choice, he said.

“A foreign bank can have access to the largest and most important financial sector in the world, the United States, or it can do business with sanctioned Iranian banks. But it cannot do both,” Cohen said.

“For the overwhelming majority of foreign banks, the choice has been a simple one. Those with potentially sanctionable relationships quickly elected to stop that business. And where we learn of potentially sanctionable activity under CISADA, we have actively investigated it, engaging in particular with foreign banks' regulators and their home government,” he said.

As a result of increased international cooperation, Iran has not been able to stop a steady erosion in the value of its currency, and increasingly has been unable to attract foreign investments, Cohen said. Iran faces a projected loss of \$14 billion a year in oil revenues through 2016, he said.

“We are making progress, but there is still much to be done to prevent Iran from evading sanctions already in place and to apply sufficient additional pressure on Iran,” he said.

GLOBAL TARGETING OF IRAN’S CENTRAL BANK COULD HAVE POWERFUL IMPACT

In October 14 testimony before the House of Representative Foreign Affairs Committee, Cohen said the Obama administration is looking into designating the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) as a target for sanctions. He said that although U.S. financial institutions are already generally prohibited from doing business with Iranian banks, including the CBI, “further U.S. action against the CBI, if it attains multilateral support, could further isolate the CBI with a potentially powerful impact on Iran.”

As the bank already is essentially cut off from the United States, “the real question is can we, by taking another action against the CBI ... either under our nonproliferation authority or under our counterterrorism authority — can we elicit multilateral respect for that action?”

“That work is under way,” Cohen told U.S. lawmakers.
